



# MSA Newsletter

A newsletter for Member Schools of Marist Schools Australia published fortnightly during term time

## From Brother Michael Green

16 September 2014

Dear Brothers, Friends and Colleagues

When families gather, they tell stories. Often they are the same stories, the ones they told at the last wedding or funeral, the ones that get a re-run every Christmas. Sometimes the stories grow in the telling. They like to tell them especially when someone new is present, but everyone enjoys hearing the yarn again. Remembering. It's part of being family, part of forming community. It's Eucharistic.

For the next fortnight in Nairobi, Kenya, 118 Marists from all parts of the world will be telling their stories to one another, their Marist stories. The second International Marist Mission Assembly runs from today until 27<sup>th</sup> September. It has brought together representatives from each continent, a diversity of language, culture and ethnicity; women and men; younger and older; lay, clergy and religious. Marists all. Using an African image of gathering "around the fire" the Assembly will first of all be mindful of the founding dream that has brought them together.

Over the last twelve months, many groups of Australian Marists have gathered to contribute to this story-telling. Using the resources prepared for the Assembly, and launched at the MSA Conference in Cairns last year, they have put together in word, image, music, and even video, some sense of how they see themselves and how they understand their identity and mission as Marists. Tomorrow, the Aussie delegation is charged with presenting all of that to the wider group. We have some rich material with which to work.

Only to remember risks slipping into idle nostalgia. Only to dwell in the present risks narcissism. That is not our Marist way. From Marcellin, from Mary, we are intuitively risk-takers. The hill country is okay for us. We are audacious. It is not an audacity that is foolhardy or reckless, but one founded on generosity, open-heartedness and hope. For most of the days of the Assembly, the participants will be engaged in imagining the future: where do we want to be, how do we want to be there, who do we want to be? Where is the hill country? Where is Mary leading us? Let's hope we can be daring in that dreaming. We Australians believe we have something quite compelling to offer to the conversation, specifically around our plans for the new Marist Association of St Marcellin. We'll see how we go.

We are graced as Marists to have such a richness of story and such bigness of dreaming. But all of that counts for little if it can't be compellingly translated into the concrete activities in which each of us spends his or her day: the kids with whom I will interact today, the colleagues and friends with whom I will break today's daily bread, the prayer time and personal space I have taken for myself today, the seeds of hope I can sow before day's end.

*Nisi Dominus*

**Brother Michael Green FMS**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR



## COMING UP...

- 14-17 Sept Footsteps 1 programme, Mittagong
- 16-27 Sept International Mission Assembly, Nairobi
- 22 Sept NSW/QLD/VIC commencement of school holidays
- 29 Sept SA/WA/ACT/NT commencement of school holidays
- 3-5 Oct Australian Catholic Youth Convention
- 6 Oct NSW Labour Day
- 6 Oct NT/VIC schools resume
- 7 Oct NSW/QLD schools resume

- 8 Oct St Joseph's College Mothers' Retreat, Hunters Hill
- 10-12 Red Leadership Camp # 1 (Vic, Phillip Island)
- 12-15 Oct Living Champagnat's Vision programme, Alice Springs
- 13 Oct Next Gen 2 programme, Brisbane
- 13 Oct SA/WA/ACT schools resume
- 16-17 Oct Next Gen 1 programme, Sydney
- 24-27 Oct Young Marist Formation programme, Mittagong
- 4 Nov Melbourne Cup Day - PUBLIC HOLIDAY

### 2015 MSA BROCHURE



Next week, we will be mailing out to Principals several copies of the MSA "Programmes and Events" brochure for 2015.

The information will also be put on the MSA app and the MSA website.

This will help Principals and their leadership groups to prepare for the Term 4 Marist review-and-planning meetings with Regional Directors and members of the MLF team.

### BERNE FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON

Last Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> September, the Annual Fundraising Luncheon took place at Doltone House in Prymont. This event raises up to \$100,000 each year that assists with the development of educational programs at the John Berne School in Lewisham in Sydney's inner-west. A full report will appear in the October edition of Lavalla magazine/Champagnat Journal.

At this stage, our sincere gratitude to all who participated, particularly for the support that came from the Marist Centre at Mascot, and from a number of Marist schools in the Sydney area.



Carole Wark & Br Anthony Boyd



Br Mark Paul

### CONGRATULATIONS



To Daniel Lynch on his appointment as Head of Senior School and Deputy Principal at Sacred Heart College, Adelaide.

### MARIST MINISTRIES MASS AND DINNER 2014

The annual Mass and Dinner for those involved in our Marist Ministries will be held in the following three centres this year. Invitations from your Principal or Ministry Leaders.

- **BRISBANE**  
Saturday 18 October  
Marist College, Ashgrove
- **SYDNEY**  
Friday 7 November  
Champagnat Catholic College Pagewood
- **MELBOURNE**  
Saturday 6 December  
Marcellin College, Bulleen



### MARIST SOLIDARITY CHRISTMAS APPEAL LAUNCH DATES 2014

**BRISBANE:**  
Monday 10 November 5.30pm – 7.30pm

**SYDNEY:**  
Tuesday 18 November 5.30pm – 7.30pm

**MELBOURNE:**  
Sunday 23 November 5.30pm – 7.30pm

**ADELAIDE:**  
Tuesday 25 November 5.30 pm – 7.00 pm

**ACT:**  
TBA



## MARIST CONTEMPLATIVE RETREAT (3-6 SEPTEMBER 2014)

Mittagong was the venue for this entering into the quietness and peace which lead to contemplation. For those present, spiritual direction was available.

The **Contemplative Retreat** is a very welcome offering from the Mission and Life Formation Team. It is also very popular. **Look out for the soon-to-be-released dates for 2015 and enrol early.**

Pope Francis has stated that prayer is "opening the door to the Lord, so that he can do something. if we close the door, God can do nothing! Let us think of Mary (sister of Lazarus & Martha) who has chosen the better part, and makes us see the way, as the door is opened to the Lord."



(L-R) Sr Lorraine Cupitt, Markus Ebeling, Corinne McPhee, Paul Harris, Christine Santifort, Desley Murphy



Participants walking the Labryinth at The Hermitage, Mittagong

## FOOTSTEPS I: MAKING JESUS KNOWN & LOVED (17-20 AUGUST 2014)



Cassandra Iler (Mount Carmel Catholic High School, Varroville) and Matthew Pearce (Red Bend Catholic College, Forbes)

#serve  
oneanother



Marist Asia-Pacific Solidarity (MAPS)  
 Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS)  
 Marist Volunteers Australia (MVA)

## SOLIDARITY MATTERS: An insight into the works of Marists in Asia and the Pacific Islands.

solidaritymatters SEPTEMBER



...Dara is one of the happiest people I have ever met and his excitement at greeting me each morning gave me a great handle on life's realities...  
 Tony McDonnell

Tony McDonnell shares his experience at the LaValla School in Cambodia where he met Dara (pictured right in the image above).

Water security, health of students, restoring schools, training teachers... these are all works that we support at MSol, but central to each project is the story involving lives of young people from all walks of life.

This year, *solidaritymatters* was given a facelift to better tell the stories of the fresh and exciting work that we are engaged in on a daily basis. Inside you'll read about life changing stories that MSol supports throughout Asia and the Pacific.

In this months edition you'll find stories on:

- Reflections from a Volunteer – CAMBODIA**
- Construction in Mouloubazar – BANGLADESH**
- New bore complete for school water – INDIA**
- Partnering for school rebuild – TIMOR-LESTE**
- New developments in Mabiri – BOUGAINVILLE**
- Christmas with the MSol Team**

To receive *solidaritymatters* direct to your inbox follow this link:

<http://bit.ly/SolidarityMattersSignup>

Contact us for more information or if you have any problems with this form:

P | (07) 3354 0600 or E | [msol@marists.org.au](mailto:msol@marists.org.au)

Michael Coleman, MSol Team – Brisbane



## MARIST 'CONNECT' EVENINGS

The Marist Youth Ministry team run 'Connect' evenings that aim to create a sense of community between senior students of Marist schools in the same geographical area.



The term 3 Marist CONNECT evenings at Eastwood, Macarthur and Randwick proved to be a great success with 12 Marist schools coming together to pray, reflect and share a meal. We hope to continue to grow this event and find opportunities to have more students involved.



I have shared with you some of the photos that highlight the joy we had as a family. Other photos can be found on our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/mymsyd>



Tiffany Roma  
 Regional Assistant - Sydney | Marist Youth Ministry